

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

001/011

AUG 25 2006

Serial No. 10/725,954
60246-296

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Sands et al.
Serial No.: 10/725,954
Filing Date: December 2, 2003
Title: AUTOMATED FREEZER COMPONENT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PTO form 1449 is submitted herewith pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98(a) as a means of complying with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.56 with respect to the above-identified application. In accordance with Patent Office guidelines, no copies of the citations listed on PTO 1449 are enclosed. None of these references discloses the invention claimed in the subject application. Also enclosed is the International Search Report.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(1), each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to consider the enclosed references on PTO-1449 submitted herewith.

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

002/011

AUG 25 2006

Serial No. 10/725,954
60246-296

No fees are seen to be required. If any additional fees are due, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482, in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds, P.C., for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment. Therefore, favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS, P.C.

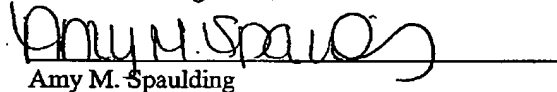


Karin H. Butchko
Registration No. 45,864
400 W. Maple, Suite 350
Birmingham, MI 48009
(248) 988-8360

Dated: August 25, 2006

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this Information Disclosure Statement is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, 571-273-8300 on August 25, 2006.


Amy M. Spaulding

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0851-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

| | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| Application Number | 10/725,954 |
| Filing Date | December 2, 2003 |
| First Named Inventor | Sands |
| Art Unit | 3654 |
| Examiner Name | Kumar, Rakesh |
| Attorney Docket Number | 60246-296 |

| | | | |
|-------|---|----|---|
| Sheet | 1 | of | 2 |
|-------|---|----|---|

[illegible][illegible]

**Examiner
Signature**

Date .
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that Issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

PTO/SB/08B (08-00)
Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0851-0031
U. S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 2

of 2

Complete if Known

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Application Number | 10/725,954 |
|--------------------|------------|

| | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Filing Date | December 2, 2003 |
|--------------------|------------------|

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| First Named Inventor | Sands |
|-----------------------------|--------------|

| | |
|----------------|------|
| Group Art Unit | 3654 |
|----------------|------|

| | |
|---------------|---------------|
| Examiner Name | Kumar, Rakesh |
|---------------|---------------|

| | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| Attorney Docket Number | 60246-296 |
|------------------------|-----------|

OTHER PRIOR ART -- NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Examiner Signature | Date Considered |
|-----------------------|--------------------|

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U. S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO:** Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.